

University of Groningen

**Stress and the female brain. The effects of estradiol on the neurobiological reactions to chronic stress.**

Gerrits, Marjolein

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*Document Version*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*  
2006

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Gerrits, M. (2006). *Stress and the female brain. The effects of estradiol on the neurobiological reactions to chronic stress.* s.n.

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## Curriculum Vitae

Marjolein Gerrits was born on March 22<sup>th</sup> 1978 in Beetsterzwaag, Opsterland, The Netherlands. From 1990-1996 she attended highschool at the C.S.G. Liudger (Ichthus College) in Drachten. In 1996 she started to study Biology at the University of Groningen. She specialized in Medical Biology with special attention to Neuroscience. Her first master's research project was performed at the department of Animal Physiology at the University of Groningen and was supervised by Eszter Farkas and Prof. Dr. Paul Luiten. This project aimed to investigate the cognitive impairment and cerebro-microvascular pathology induced by cerebral hypoperfusion. Her second research project was performed at the department of Neuroscience at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom and was supervised by Dr. Jon Brotchie. There she investigated the role of  $\alpha 2$ -adrenergic receptors in the regulation of glutamatergic transmission in the striatum after reserpine and L-DOPA treatment. She graduated *cum laude* in 2001.

Since 2001, Marjolein worked as a PhD-student at the department of Psychiatry of the University Medical Center Groningen and the University of Groningen under supervision of Prof. Dr. Gert ter Horst and Prof. Dr. Hans den Boer. Her research topic involved the role of stress on the female brain. She investigated the effects of estradiol on the neurobiological reactions to chronic stress, as described in the current thesis.

In September 2005, Marjolein started a lateral entry course in Medical School at the University Medical Center Groningen, which allows her to attend the regular master program of Medicine in September 2006.